

W5YI

America's Oldest Ham Radio Newsletter **REPORT**

Up to the minute news from the world of amateur radio, personal computing and emerging electronics. While no guarantee is made, information is from sources we believe to be reliable.

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WRC-2003 Preparations Continue to Move Forward

Preparations for the next World Radio Conference (WRC) of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) are moving ahead on schedule. Since radio waves do not respect international boundaries, it is at these WRC's that the various nations of the world meet to agree on telecommunications matters.

To bring you up to date, on July 26, 2000 a resolution was adopted at the Istanbul WRC-2000 which stated that the next WRC would be held for a period of four weeks (from 9 June 9th to July 4th, 2003) and finalized its agenda. The resolution also noted that Venezuela had invited the ITU to hold the Conference in their country and it is anticipated that will be the location of WRC-03.

Agenda items

The following approved agenda items involve the Amateur Radio Service:

- 1.7 to consider issues concerning the amateur and amateur-satellite services:
 - 1.7.1 possible revision of Article S25;
 - 1.7.2 review of the provisions of Article S19 concerning the formation of call signs in the amateur services in order to provide flexibility for administrations;
 - 1.7.3 review of the terms and definitions of Article S1 to the extent required as a consequence of changes made in Article S25;

1.23 to consider realignment of the allocations to the amateur, amateur-satellite and broadcasting services around 7 MHz on a worldwide basis, taking into account Recommendation 718 (WARC-92).

Article 25 contains the basic international Radio Regulations applying to the Amateur and Amateur-Satellite services including the treaty requirement requiring that ham operators demonstrate Morse code proficiency for access to amateur bands below 30 MHz.

The long-standing overlapping of the amateur, and broadcasting 7-MHz bands was identified at WARC-92 which called for realignment at a future conference. The International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) wants a "harmonized" worldwide 300-kHz allocation around 7 MHz.

There are also other agenda items which could impact the Amateur Service including an examination of the HF Broadcasting bands from 4 to 10 MHz and allocations to non-geostationary, non-voice mobile satellites (the so-called "Little LEOS" - low-earth orbiting satellites) below 1 GHz and Earth Exploration-Satellite Service in the 420 to 470-MHz band.

FCC Advisory Committees

Various Informal Working Groups (IWG) have been assembled by the FCC's International Bureau to assist the FCC, the National Telecommunications

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and Information Administration (NTIA) and the U.S. Department of State in arriving at a U.S. position on each agenda item.

Informal Working Group 6 (IWG-6) is considering Amateur Radio matters. The Vice Chairman of this committee is ARRL Technical Relations Specialist Walt Ireland, WB7CSL. The group held their first meeting on January 30, 2001 at FCC Headquarters in Washington and additional meetings have been held since then.

The next IWG-6 meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, September 4, 2001 at the FCC in Washington, D.C. The objective of these meetings is to determine a "Preliminary View" (or "PV") on the various items. So far there has not been unanimous agreement in IWG-6 on how the basic international Amateur Radio rules should read.

NTIA Preliminary View

The National Telecommunications and Information Administration's *Office of Spectrum Management* recently wrote a letter to the FCC's International Bureau saying it had approved the release of additional *Preliminary Executive Branch (NTIA) Views* for WRC-2003. One of these concerned Agenda Item 1.7. It reads:

DRAFT PRELIMINARY VIEW FOR WRC-03

Agenda Item 1.7: To consider issues concerning the amateur and amateur satellite services;

ISSUE: Issues concerning Amateur Radio - 1.7.1 possible revision of Article S25.

BACKGROUND: This item was prompted by a proposal at WRC-95 to delete the requirement for amateurs to demonstrate Morse code capability to be licensed to operate on amateur bands below 30 MHz. At that WRC, the International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) requested a delay because it needed to consult its three regional organizations, which meet in turn over a three-year period.

This consultation has taken place and IARU provided an input document to Working Party 8A at its 1999 meeting and made a further input at WP 8A's 2000 meeting. The inputs resulted in a Draft New Recommendation adopted at SG 8.

The DNR establishes minimum qualifications for amateur operators and provides for knowledge of various methods of radiocommunication including radiotelegraphy but does not specify Morse code. The draft CPM text generated by WP 8A in November 2000 says that the Morse code provision could be suppressed by WRC-2003 and the DNR could be considered for possible incorporation by reference.

Other provisions of Article S25 that are to be addressed under this agenda item are provisions concerning third party traffic and reciprocal operating agreements.

U.S. VIEW: The U.S. supports the suppression of Morse code requirement for amateurs.

ITU Study Groups

The ITU also produces standards covering all fields of telecommunications. The standardization work is carried out by various study groups which develop non-binding Recommendations. ARRL's Paul Rinaldo W4RI and the IARU have been very active in trying to get the various countries of the world to agree on the needed qualifications for an Amateur Radio license.

On August 8, 2001, the ITU published a Recommendation developed by the IARU that outlines what it believes should be the basic qualifications for Amateur Radio operators worldwide. "Recommendation ITU-R M.1544, Minimum Qualifications of Radio Amateurs" states that minimal operational and technical qualifications are necessary for proper operation of an amateur or amateur-satellite station.

It recommends that any person seeking an amateur license at least be able to demonstrate specific theoretical knowledge of radio regulations, radiocommunication methods, radio systems, radio emission safety, electromagnetic compatibility, and RF interference avoidance and resolution.

The current international Radio Regulations require that "Administrations shall take such measures as they judge necessary to verify the operational and technical qualifications of any person wishing to operate an amateur station." Since it is likely that the Morse code requirement will be abolished at WRC-2003, the IARU believes that additional language is needed that mandates an examination on certain broad topics.

According to the ARRL, "Recommendation M.1544 came about as part of the IARU's multi-year effort to prepare for the 2003 World Radiocommunication Conference, where delegates will consider possible revision of Article S25 of the international Radio Regulations. Work began in 1996 with the release for public comment of a discussion paper by the IARU *Future of the Amateur Service Committee*. The FASC's final report in 1998 recommended that the IARU Administrative Council plan the development of such a recommendation.

"The first draft text was submitted by the *Radio Society of Great Britain* to the 1999 Conference of IARU Region 1 in Lillehammer, Norway. It was subsequently refined by the IARU Administrative Council and the 2000 Conference of IARU Region 3 in Darwin, Australia.

"IARU representatives guided consideration of the recommendation through ITU-R Working Party 8A, Study Group 8 and consultation with administrations, which resulted in additional refinements. The final version of the Recommendation was approved by the ITU administrations without objection," ARRL said. A copy of Recommendation M.1544 which was downloaded from the ITU's website is shown on the next page.

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INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATION UNION



RADIOCOMMUNICATION
STUDY GROUPS

Document 8/BL/1-E
3 April 2001

Source: Document 8/7 (Rev.1)

Radiocommunication Study Group 8
DRAFT NEW RECOMMENDATION ITU-R M.[RAM.QUAL]
Minimum qualifications of radio amateurs

(Question ITU-R 48/8)

The ITU Radiocommunication Assembly,
considering

- a) that No. S1.56 of the Radio Regulations (RR) defines the amateur service as: A radiocommunication service for the purpose of self-training, intercommunication and technical investigations carried out by amateurs, that is, by duly authorized persons interested in radio technique solely with a personal aim and without pecuniary interest;
- b) that No. S1.57 (RR) defines the amateur-satellite service as: A radiocommunication service using space stations on earth satellites for the same purposes as those of the amateur service;
- c) that certain minimum operator operational and technical qualifications are necessary for proper operation of an amateur or amateur-satellite station,

recommends

- 1 that administrations take such measures as they judge necessary to verify the operational and technical qualifications of any person wishing to operate an amateur station;
- 2 that any person seeking a licence to operate an amateur station should demonstrate theoretical knowledge of:

- Radio Regulations
 - international
 - domestic
- Methods of radiocommunication
 - radiotelephony
 - radiotelegraphy
 - data and image
- Radio system theory
 - transmitters
 - receivers
 - antennas and propagation
 - measurements
- Radio emission safety
- Electromagnetic compatibility

Avoidance and resolution of radio frequency interference

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ASIA-PACIFIC CONFERENCE SUPPORTS MORSE EXAM DELETION

The Asia-Pacific Telecommunity (APT) was established in May, 1979 as a Regional Telecommunication Organization by an Inter-governmental agreement.

Member countries of the organization are: Afghanistan, Australia, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Brunei, PR China, Fiji, India, Indonesia, Iran, Japan, DPR Korea, Rep. Korea, PDR Lao, Malaysia, Maldives, Micronesia, Mongolia, Myanmar (Burma), Nauru, Nepal, New Zealand, Pakistan, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Samoa, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Tonga, Vietnam, Cook Islands, Hong Kong, Macau and Niue.

The Second Asia-Pacific Telecommunity (APT) WRC-2003 Conference Preparatory Group Meeting was held in Bangkok, Thailand in June 2001. The following is an Australian report of that meeting.

The APT Members generally supported the deletion of the Morse code test requirements in the International Radio Regulations. Three major issues for WRC-2003 were discussed, the 7 MHz band, the Morse code position and a revision of Article S25.

S25 includes regulations with the same intent as other regulations elsewhere applying generally to all radio services, so entries about transmitter power, purity of emissions, and station identification can be safely deleted from a future version of S25, making the international regulations shorter and easier to understand.

Article S25 opens with: "Radiocommunications between amateur stations of different countries shall be forbidden if the administration of one of the countries concerned has notified that it objects to such communications." If an administration decides to prohibit its amateurs from communicating internationally, it can accomplish this through its own regulations. So this entry is unnecessary, too.

The IARU draft new Article S25 contains just six paragraphs. It covers everything needed in the international regulations for the amateur and amateur satellite services. The IARU Region 3 is asking all Region 3 Amateur Radio societies to support this proposal. It reads:

ARTICLE S25

Amateur Services

Section 1. Amateur Service

S25.1 1. Administrations shall verify the technical and operational qualifications of any person wishing to operate an amateur station. A person seeking a licence to operate an amateur station shall be required to demonstrate a knowledge of the topics specified in ITU-R Recommendation M-XXX.

S25.2 2. (1) Transmissions between amateur stations of different countries shall be limited to communica-

tions incidental to the purposes of the amateur service or of a personal character.

(2) Except with the authority of the relevant administration granted to meet a particular operational need, transmissions between amateur stations shall not be encoded for the purpose of obscuring their meaning.

S25.3 3. Administrations are urged to take the steps necessary to allow amateur stations to prepare for and meet communication needs in the event of a natural disaster.

S25.4 4. An administration may, without issuing a license, permit a person who has been granted a license to operate an amateur station by another administration, to operate an amateur station while that person is temporarily in its territory, subject to such conditions or restrictions it may impose.

Section II. Amateur-Satellite Service

S25.5 5. The provisions of Section I of this Article shall apply equally, as appropriate, to the amateur-satellite service.

S25.6 6. Administrations authorizing space stations in the amateur-satellite service shall ensure that sufficient earth command stations are established before launch to ensure that any harmful interference caused by emissions from a station in the amateur-satellite service can be immediately eliminated.

The next meeting of APT to be held probably in mid April 2003 will be critical. The stand presently adopted by many of the administrations on the different issues are known because they were disclosed at the APT meeting in June.

The APT Members generally supported the deletion of the Morse code test requirements in the International Radio Regulations. The 7 MHz issue will be much more difficult to deal with in this Region with a number of specialist broadcasters wishing to target Asia using single hop propagation. The meeting reaffirmed the need for a worldwide 300 kHz Amateur exclusive provision at 7 MHz.

AUSTRALIA

According to information posted to the Australian Communications Authority (ACA) website entitled Australian Views for WRC 2003 Agenda Items, Australia's general position for the amateur and the amateur-satellite services is to:

- maintain the nature of the services;
- bring related Articles into line with current technology and practices;
- give Administrations maximum flexibility;
- increase ability to mobilize for operation in natural disasters; and
- enhance a roaming ability.

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CUTTING EDGE TECHNOLOGY

Digital Pen and Paper - Anoto is an "intelligent" pen, and a special type of paper that turns writing and drawing into digital images. The special paper is already being developed by office supply companies. You just check the appropriate "magic box" and the document is sent to the destination via fax or email.

The digital paper consists of a small dot (barely visible) pattern spread out over a pre-printed grid. The grid ensures that x- and y-coordinates can be determined every time the pen is placed on the paper.

The Anoto pen, which is only slightly thicker than a standard pen, is equipped with a scanning eye and a "Bluetooth" radio transmitter. Bluetooth™ wireless technology eliminates the need for devices to be connected by cable in order to send and receive information.

The scanning eye is combination digital infrared camera and an image processing system. After the pen touches down on paper, the digital camera begins taking a series of shots (at about 100 frames per second) until the pen lifts up again. The scanning eye system, along with the digital paper grid, tracks the pen's movements accurately. To send the information, the pen's Bluetooth technology transfers the image data to a mobile phone, laptop, PDA, or any other digital environment. Check out: <www.anoto.com>

Dimension Technology, Inc. (Rochester, NY) has developed a way to show 3-D (three dimension) images on a 2-D screen without glasses or headgear. Their patented "eyeQ" 3-D LCD technology does not require any additional aids of any kind. Just a push a button, and the objects will leap off the screen and hang in space. Here is how it works!

All stereoscopic imaging systems work by creating at least two images (a "stereo pair") of each scene, one image of the scene as a person's left eye would see it, and the other is for the right eye. The imaging system must cause the left eye to see only the left eye image with the right eye seeing only the right eye image.

With the DTI display, this is accomplished with a special illumination pattern and optics behind the LCD screen which make alternate columns of pixels visible only to the left and right eye.

The 15-inch diagonal LCD flat panel displays 16.7-million colors with up to 1024x768 resolution. Lists for: \$1599. More info at: <<http://www.dti3d.com>>

Once technologically superior Polaroid and its instant film and camera process is feeling the crunch of digital photography (which it got into late.) They are in deep financial trouble, unable even to meet interest payments on their \$1 billion debt load. The once \$60 a share stock (4 years ago) now sells for a dollar something and Chapter 11 bankruptcy looms.

Their profitable ID business which produces photographs for most U.S. drivers' licenses may be sold to a group of its own management insiders. Bankers and bondholders are raising questions as to whether they will pay the highest possible price.

Another option being considered is to sell the ID card business to a competitor who is making inroads in digitally produced license photos. Even selling the entire company to Kodak or Fuji is being considered.

Speedy camera-on-a-chip uses breakthrough digital pixel sensor, or DPS technology licensed from Stanford University. Pixim, a Mountain View, California start up company spun out of Stanford has reduced a whole digital camera to an image sensor chip which has dramatically sharper resolution rivaling film images.

Its process is "thousands of times" faster (processing one billion pixels per second), cheaper and gets rid of the "noise" that blurs digital images. Cameras using the new DPS technology are expected to hit the marketplace in early 2002.

You can also expect DPS chips to turn up in watches, toys, cell phones, and personal digital assistants. The day is not far off when your wife will not only call you from the store, but show you the product she is considering as well. On the Web check out: <www.pixim.com>

COMPUTERS & SOFTWARE

Sony has decided that its brand new eVilla Network Appliance offers less than an entry-level computer and costs about the same (\$500). It discontinued its proprietary eVilla online service (provided by Earthlink) on August

31st and is offering full refunds on the Internet appliance. The machine was plagued with technical glitches and sold poorly. See: <www.eVilla.com>

Netpliance's "I-Opener", another Internet appliance (\$199) has also been discontinued after being cited by the Federal Trade Commission for deceptive advertising, unfair billing practices and other "misrepresentations." The firm was required to reimburse customers for improper "extra" charges and had to pay a \$100,000 civil penalty. Reportedly, the firm failed to disclose that consumers had to use Netpliance's Internet service which carried an additional monthly fee and long distance charges. Furthermore, the device could not provide complete content access to the Internet as claimed. In some cases the firm charged consumers' credit cards without their consent. See: <www.ftc.gov/opa/2001-07/netpliance.htm> for the FTC writeup.

The "ePodsOne" (Seattle, WA) is another \$199 Internet appliance that is no longer available. This one looked like an Etch-a-Sketch toy with an 8.2-inch screen but really was a \$199 Internet appliance that plugged into a phone jack. Like the Netpliance, consumers had to preregister for <www.epods.com> Internet access (36 months at \$24.99!) Their website is no longer available.

INTERNET NEWS

Dataquest the market-research arm of Gartner Inc., says it has found 61 percent of all U.S. homes "actively" using the Internet, an increase of 8.4 million users in just the past eight months. And 90 percent of those online are expected to continue surfing.

Businesses and consumers may be cutting back, but not users on the web. "There is no indication that this demand will abate over the next 12 months," said a Dataquest spokesman.

High-speed Internet access has reached less than 25 percent of online households and nearly 20 percent of dial-up households report they plan to subscribe to a high-speed service by mid-2002. Cable systems still command more than half the residential high-speed market.

Nielson NetRatings statistics were pretty much the same. The firm reported that fifty-eight percent of all

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Americans had Internet access in their homes in July 2001, as compared to 52% last year. In July 1999, only 39% of all Americans had access to the Web.

Overall, surfers are spending more time online and logging on more frequently. Web users spent an average of 10 hours and 19 minutes online during the month of July 2001, rising seven percent from 9 hours and 41 minutes spent in July 2000. Surfers also accessed the Internet more often, jumping 11% in the past year.

"Compared to other communications and media technology, Internet adoption has reached nearly three out of five homes almost overnight," Nielsen said. "While PC and Internet penetration have far exceeded many other types of consumer devices, there is still ample room to grow before reaching the 98% penetration levels of telephones and TVs."

Nielsen also reported that traffic to airline sites in the U.S. has soared recently as Internet users flocked to take advantage of late summer special "web-only" offers. Nielsen described the rash of special offers as "airfare wars" and said the Internet was the "ideal medium" for airlines to market promotional and discounted fares to consumers. Collaborating with Yahoo Travel, Travelocity and their own website, American Airlines had two very successful web-only "one-day-sales" with round trip fares as low as \$57!

Outraged by the behavior of the airlines, the American Society of Travel Agents (ASTA) organized Operation CARE (Campaign for Agent Rights and Equality) and picketed airports to let the traveling public know that web-only fares could put them out of business. (Does the public even care? They are interested in saving money!)

In mid-August, American and TWA further reduced commissions to travel agents which was quickly matched by Delta and United. ASTA accused the government of "...permitting airlines to act collectively in ways that are directly harmful to our businesses and to the traveling public." They further charged that web-only airfares deprive consumers of their preferred method of purchasing air transportation.

Many travel agencies across the country closed their doors for two hours (from 1 to 3 p.m. EDT) on August 30th as part of an ASTA-led *Nationwide Day of Awareness*. The 26,000-member trade association has registered the slogan, "Without a travel agent, you are on your

own!" More at: <www.astanet.com>

WASHINGTON WHISPERS

A new law in Texas now makes it a crime to send harassing messages by e-mail or to fax machines and pagers. The law, which went into effect on September 1, updates an existing law that already outlaws harassing phone calls and written messages. Punishment calls for up to 180 days in jail and a maximum fine of \$2,000 for a first offense. More than half of all U.S. states now have "electronic stalking" laws.

The digital revolution has come to radio. Two companies - Sirius Satellite Radio and XM Satellite Radio - each will be delivering up to 100 channels of crystal-clear coast-to-coast music, news, information, and talk-show programming via satellite.

Most radio signals begin to fade 30 miles away from their source. You could drive from Tacoma, Washington, to Washington, D.C., without ever having to change from the satellite radio station! Some channels will be commercial free. DARS (Digital Audio Radio Service) operates in the 2.3 MHz S-band.

The XM service will be available by paying a \$9.99 monthly fee. XM Radio begins service to the Dallas/Ft. Worth and San Diego area on Sept. 12th, the entire southwest next month with expansion planned nationwide in November. The big question is will the public pay to listen to the radio when it has always been free!

Approximately 60 percent of the channels are original content created by XM at its state-of-the-art studios and broadcast center in Washington DC and at its studios in New York City and at the new Country Music Hall of Fame and Museum in Nashville.

Sirius Satellite Radio will cost \$12.95 monthly. Sirius has already begun broadcasting and is now "...conducting a comprehensive quality assurance program." Supposedly the service will be offered to consumers by year end but no launch date has yet been announced. Sirius' broadcast studios are also located in New York City.

Potential subscribers are 36 million commuters who are on the road 1 to 2 hours daily, 1.1 million long distance truckers and 9.3 million recreational vehicle owners. Analysts forecast 10 to 12 million in-vehicle satellite-radio subscribers by the end of 2004.

Most satellite radio sets will be installed as original equipment in vehicles beginning with the 2002 model year. But home and portable radios for the XM Satellite Service will also be manufactured by Kenwood, Panasonic, Clarion, Sony, Jensen, and others and available at retailers such as Circuit City and Best Buy.

Because satellite radios are addressable, Sirius and XM will eventually offer car "telematics" services. They will be able to remotely unlock car doors if the owner locks the keys inside, remotely start the engine on cold mornings, or even deliver custom content.

The National Association of Broadcasters has turned thumbs down on satellite radio's request to operate terrestrial repeaters to fill in areas where their satellite signals can not reach such as in between tall buildings, underpasses or in tunnels.

The NAB wants to preclude digital-audio radio (DAR) companies from turning satellite-delivered radio into a local "terrestrial" service. In comments to the FCC, the NAB said "If XM and Sirius want to provide traditional over-the-air radio service, they should apply for over-the-air licenses like everyone else."

On the web: <www.xmradio.com> and <www.siriusradio.com>.

Congressional lawmakers face a deadline to extend an existing moratorium which prevent taxes on Internet sales. The three year moratorium expires on October 21st.

The nation's governors are still trying to end the e-tax ban. A letter signed by most top state executives asks that Congress not extend the 1998 moratorium on Internet sales taxes unless the states are allowed to come up with their own system to collect online sales taxes.

"If you care about a level playing field for main street retail businesses, and local control of state's governments and schools, extend the moratorium on taxing Internet access only with authorization for the states to streamline and simplify the existing sales tax system," the letter reads in part.

Local brick-and-mortar outlets are enraged because e-businesses are able to sell at lower prices and offer things like free shipping because it's tax-free shopping. Online sales are not taxed. The Congressional Budget Office said recently that states could lose as much as \$20 billion by 2003, forcing an increase in taxes or reductions in state spending.

Part of the problem is that there are

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thousands of local and state tax codes and coming up with an equitable system is next to impossible. Under a 1992 Supreme Court decision, states cannot require out-of-state retailers to collect sales taxes unless they have a physical presence in the state.

A bill currently in the Congress seeks to extend the moratorium another five years without mentioning the sales-tax issue. Most members of Congress believe that extending the moratorium on Internet specific taxes is important to the health of the Internet and with the economy sputtering, this is not the time to talk about taxes.

The General Accounting Office, Congress' investigative arm, believes that Code Red computer virus that hit Web servers around the world last month originated at a university in China.

The self-replicating "worm" only targeted Microsoft servers and over 1 million servers were infected. Individual computers were not vulnerable to the attack. Microsoft published a corrective patch on August 15th.

Computer Economics, a California-based research group said the economic loss from the Code Red infections was \$2.6 billion dollars. The total impact of virus attacks around the world for 2001 was more than \$10 billion.

The top virus for August that infected individual PCs was the W32 Sircam worm which is spread by opening an e-mail attachment. Millions of PCs were affected.

AMATEUR RADIO

The killer of Irving (Texas) police office Aubrey Hawkins KC5USI has been sentenced to death. George Rivas, the ringleader of the "Texas 7" who broke out a maximum security prison last December asked for the death penalty. He called it "freedom" from having to spend the rest of his life in prison. Rivas shot and killed Hawkins who was responding to a robbery call from a Dallas area sporting goods store. All but one inmate (who committed suicide) were recaptured a month later in Colorado. They are awaiting trial on capital murder charges.

The next space shuttle launch to the International Space Station is STS-108 scheduled for November 29, 2001. The ten day mission will be the 12th shuttle mission to visit the ISS.

Among other things, the Shuttle Endeavor will be delivering the fourth ISS crew and a Multi-Purpose Logistics Module, one of three by the Italian Space Agency.

These cylindrical pressurized containers serve as the International Space Station's "moving vans," carrying up to ten tons of laboratory racks filled with equipment, experiments and supplies to and from the station aboard the space shuttle.

Astronaut Linda Godwin N5RAX is one of the mission specialists for STS-108, her fourth journey into space. STS-108 will be returning the Expedition Three crew, commanded by Frank Culbertson KD5OPQ to Earth and ferrying the Expedition Four crew to the space station..

A member of the Expedition Four crew is Astronaut Carl E. Walz KC5TIE, (Col., U.S. Air Force). Walz has also flown four times into space. The lone American member of the Expedition Five crew scheduled for Spring 2002, Peggy A. Whitson is also a ham, KC5ZTD.

Want to follow the U.S. and international Amateur Radio preparations for WRC-2003? Here are some of the key website addresses:

ITU Study Group 8: (SG-8):

<www.itu.int/brcnfg/rwg/wrc-cpm-process/index.html> click on "Study Groups"

ITU-R Radiocommunications Sector:

<www.itu.int/ITU-R>

FCC International Bureau:

<www.fcc.gov/wrc-03>

United Kingdom "Regulatory Agency"

<www.radio.gov.uk>

click on "International" link

Asia Pacific Telecommunity (APT):

<www.apsec.org>

Inter-American Telecom. Commission (CITEL): <www.citel.oas.org>

European Conf. of Postal & Telecom. Admin. (CEPT): <www.cept.org>

Australian Communications Authority (ACA): <www.austel.gov.au>

National Telecom. and Info. Admin. (NTIA): <<http://www.ntia.doc.gov/osmhome/wrc99pre/ntia.htm>>

German radioamateurs licensed before 1997 must submit by December 31, 2001 to their Regulatory Authority for Telecommunications and Posts (the RegTP is the German telecom regulator) their station's compliance with the 1997 personal safety and cardiac pacemaker limit law. The self-evaluation is designed to protect persons exposed to RF fields.

Amateurs licensed after 1997 were required to submit calculations and measurements of their station's worst-case antenna configuration to the RegTP before putting their station into service.

Klaus D. Kramer KA5NUP (General Class) of Oklahoma City, OK has been socked with a \$9,500 fine for illegal over-power operation of a Citizens Band station.

On January 20, 2001, the FCC received a complaint about a CB operator in the Oklahoma City area operating with excessive power using the "handle" of "Bamm Bamm."

The following month, FCC agents using a radio direction finding vehicle monitored "Bamm Bamm" operating on CB channel 19 (27.185 MHz) from the residence of Klaus D. Kramer. Two days later (on February 23, 2001) additional channel 19 signals were found to be radiating from Mike's Cycle Shop, a business owned by Kramer. An inspection determined that Kramer was using an uncertified CB transmitter installed inside the cabinet of an Industrial Business UHF two-way transceiver.

The output of the CB transmitter was connected to a model "Dixie Lander 3" external RF power amplifier. This system was automatically activated upon reception of a tone-coded signal on 469.575 MHz, an Industrial/Business Pool frequency authorized for other purposes to Klaus Kramer doing business as Mike's Cycle Shop under license WPHP749.

Another inspection at Kramer's home determined that he was using a modified Realistic Navajo CB transmitter that was connected to a "DX-400" external RF power amplifier.

The agents warned Kramer that use of an external power amplifier and a modified CB transmitter voided his authority to operate a CB station and he was operating an unlicensed station. Kramer admitted making the transmissions using an "afterburner." He voluntarily turned the equipment over to the FCC agents.

Based on the Commission's *Forfeiture Policy Guidelines*, the FCC set the fine at \$10,000 for unlicensed operation, but reduced the amount to \$9,500 due to his cooperation in relinquishing the non-certified transmitting equipment. Kramer was ordered to pay the fine within 30 days or "...file a written statement seeking reduction or cancellation...." Any such request must be accompanied by financial and federal tax returns, the FCC said. (FCC Notice of Apparent Liability for Forfeiture, July 13, 2001.)

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FCC TO IMPLEMENT FEDERAL REGISTRATION NUMBERS

Effective December 3, 2001, you will have another "FCC Number" to deal with. The FCC is requiring all applicants and licensees doing business with the FCC (including amateur radio operators) to provide a (ten digit) FCC Registration Number (FRN) with any application filings requiring a taxpayer identification number. (This TIN is the applicant's Social Security Number.) The FRN is required under new FCC rules in Part 1, Subpart W.

The FRN is different from the Licensee ID (an 8-digit number beginning with the letter "L") which may be used in place of the applicants TIN (or Social Security Number.)

The FRN is a unique identifying number that may be initially obtained over the Internet through the Commission Registration System (CORES) at <www.fcc.gov/omd>. The FRN will be used by all Commission financial, authorization of service, and enforcement systems including Amateur Radio applications. CORES will continue to be the central repository for basic licensee information.

It appears that it will be necessary for any applicant that was issued a call sign after May 19, 2001 to register and obtain an FRN. From reviewing the FCC database, it appears that the FCC automatically issued every applicant an FRN prior to that date.

The new procedure will particularly impact the VE program where examiners will have to ensure that exam applicants enter their FRN on their application Form 605 prior to submission by the VE team to their VEC.

The FCC is adopting the FRN requirement to assist them to comply with the *Debt Collection Improvement Act of 1996* (DCIA), a law passed by Congress. The FCC will not grant a license if the applicant has delinquent debts.

When the CORES became operational in 2000, licensees in the Universal Licensing System (ULS), the FCC's largest database, were automatically assigned FRNs. You can obtain your FRN by going on the Web to <www.fcc.gov/wtb/uls/> and clicking on the "Licenses" link. Click on "Continue" and enter your call sign into the form and click on "search" at the bottom of the page. Click on your call sign and "Licensee Information," the second link over at the top of the next page for your FRN.

Here are the new FRN Rules. We have edited out the parts that do not apply to the Amateur Radio Service.

Code of Federal Regulations is amended as follows:

Part 1 – PRACTICE AND PROCEDURE

Subpart W – FCC Registration Number

§ 1.8001 FCC Registration Number (FRN).

§ 1.8002 Obtaining an FRN.

§ 1.8003 Providing the FRN in Commission filings.

§ 1.8004 Penalty for failure to provide the FRN.

§ 1.8001 FCC Registration Number (FRN).

The FCC Registration Number (FRN) is a 10-digit

unique identifying number that is assigned to entities doing business with the Commission.

The FRN is obtained through the Commission Registration System (CORES) over the Internet at the CORES link at <www.fcc.gov/omd> or by filing FCC Form 160.

§ 1.8002 Obtaining an FRN.

The FRN must be obtained by

- anyone doing business with the Commission, including but not limited to anyone required to pay statutory charges;
- anyone applying for a license, including someone who is exempt from paying statutory charges.

(1.) When registering for an FRN through the CORES, an entity's name, entity type, contact name and title, address, and taxpayer identifying number (TIN) must be provided. For individuals, the TIN is the social security number (SSN).

Information provided when registering for an FRN must be kept current by registrants either by updating the information on-line at the CORES link at <www.fcc.gov/omd> or by filing FCC Form 161 (CORES Update/Change Form).

An FRN may be assigned by the Commission, which will promptly notify the entity of the assigned FRN.

§ 1.8003 Providing the FRN in Commission Filings.

The FRN must be provided with any filings requiring the payment of statutory charges, anyone applying for a license, including someone who is exempt from paying statutory charges, and anyone paying any other payment.

A list of applications and other instances where the FRN is required will be posted to the FCC Internet site and linked to the CORES page.

§ 1.8004 Penalty for Failure to Provide the FRN.

Electronic filing systems for filings that require the FRN will not accept a filing without the appropriate FRN. If a party seeks to make an electronic filing and does not have an FRN, the system will direct the party to the CORES website to obtain an FRN. Filings subject to the FRN requirement and submitted without an FRN will be returned or dismissed.

FCC Registration Number Assistance

Additional information concerning the CORES is found in the Frequently Asked Question portion of the CORES homepage on the FCC Internet site, located at <www.fcc.gov> by clicking on the CORES link.

For further information concerning registering for an FRN, contact the CORES Administrator toll-free at 1-877-480-3201, or by e-mail at <CORES@fcc.gov>.

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FCC RADIO AMATEUR ENFORCEMENT NEWS

Michael Wisch WB0LGC (Denver, CO), Randall Miller KE6MUG (Laguna Beach, CA) , Michael Marin KF6FSD (Long Beach, CA) and Steven Decho KE6FX (Draper, UT) were cited by the FCC for their uncoordinated repeater operations that are causing interference to coordinated repeaters.

Richard Laing, Jr. WB2JPQ (Eden, NY) has been warned that he still has not made the necessary repeater frequency (crystal and tuning) changes needed to eliminate interference to coordinated repeater, VE3ZAP.

Timothy M. Smith WA1HLR (Skowhegan, ME) has been warned about his rude "bodily function" sound effects being transmitted by his station. FCC will begin enforcement action unless corrected.

Alexander Sandbrand N2NNU (Yonkers, NY) and Federico Bravo KC4CLE (Miami, FL) have been cited for operating on the 20 and 40 meter bands not authorized under their Technician and Tech Plus Class licenses.

Sanford Samuels K6ROC (Mission Hills, CA) holds at least 15 club call signs. The FCC wants justification for these call signs and a list of the members of each club. **Jerry Darby N6UME (LaPuente, CA)** has voluntarily relinquished 40 club call signs that are no longer needed.

Agapito Belardo Salgado WP4LBN (Vieques, PR), William Barriel KP4MT (Bayamon, PR) and David DePoy AB0NW (Wichita, KS) had their General and Extra Class licenses canceled by the FCC due to failure to appear for reexamination as ordered last June. **Milton Bonilla WP4EPE (Mayaguez, PR)** had his license downgraded to Technician when he failed to pass the 5 wpm code exam.

The Chattanooga Electric Power Board (Chattanooga, TN) has been cited for causing harmful "power line" interference to the Amateur and Aviation Bands. They are to advise the steps they are taking to correct the problem.

Shannon L. Ratigan N0JAM (Winnetka, CA) was sent a warning notice concerning his transmission of obscene and indecent communications. He is to respond to the FCC within 20 days.

Ross W. McCoy N5CUL (Los Lunas, NM) was warned that his repeater has been monitored transmitting music, sound effects and insufficient or no identification. The FCC wants to know the identity of the control operators.

William C. Dennison K0VCD (Springfield, MO) was cited for intentionally interfering with an 80-meter emergency "Texas-Louisiana flooding" communications net.

The City Cab Company (Lewiston, ME) was notified that their 152-MHz operation is causing interference to the KQ1L repeater operating on 146.880 MHz.

AMATEUR RADIO STATION CALL SIGNS

...sequentially issued as of the first of September 2001:

Radio District	Group A Extra	Group B Advanced	Group C Tech/Gen.	Group D Novice
0 (*)	AB0RV	KI0RZ	(***)	KC0LHQ
1 (*)	AA1YV	KE1LZ	(***)	KB1HEG
2 (*)	AB2RE	KG2RN	(***)	KC2IKG
3 (*)	AA3XN	KF3EC	(***)	KB3HAC
4 (*)	AG4KQ	KV4FR	(***)	KG4PQN
5 (*)	AD5FI	KM5XL	(***)	KD5PQN
6 (*)	AD6ZK	KR6ET	(***)	KG6HTI
7 (*)	AC7OQ	KK7WZ	(***)	KD7OGJ
8 (*)	AB8LM	KI8JZ	(***)	KC8SCT
9 (*)	AB9DB	KG9RA	(***)	KC9AFF
N. Mariana	NH0Z	AH0BB	KH0NM	WH0ABP
Guam	(**)	AH2DO	KH2VN	WH2AOC
Hawaii	(**)	AH6RB	KH7ZZ	WH6DGO
Am.Samoa	AH8W	AH8AI	KH8DP	WH8ABF
Alaska	(**)	AL7RR	KL1EB	WL7CVJ
Virgin Isl.	(**)	KP2CS	NP2LT	WP2AIN
Puerto Rico	WP3T	KP3BM	WP3MD	WP4NOU

* = All 1-by-2 and 2-by-1 call signs have all been assigned. AA-AK-by-2 now being assigned.

** = All 2-by-1 call signs have been assigned.

*** = Group "C" (N-by-3) call signs have all been allocated in all districts. (K-by-3 and W-by-3 are not assigned under the sequential call sign system. Available only to the Vanity Call Sign system.)

Note: The following prefix numerals are now allocated to Puerto Rico (KP, NP, WP3 or 4), Hawaii (AH, KH, NH, WH6 or 7) and Alaska (AL, KL, NL WL1 thru 0)

[Source: FCC Amateur Service Database, Washington, DC]

TOTAL NUMBER OF RADIOAMATEURS DECLINE

Our quarterly survey of the state of the U.S. Amateur Radio Service shows little change from previous post-restructuring trends. There has been a slight decline in the total number of U.S. radioamateursbut it is less than 3/10th of one percent.

During the past year (ending Sept. 1, 2001) the number of Extra Class amateurs has increased by about 3,000 - a number that pretty much matches the declines in the Advanced Class. The General Class increased about 6,000. The Extra and General Class improvement can be traced to the lowering of the Morse Code exam requirements to 5 words-per-minute.

The Tech Plus and Technician Class is difficult to interpret since Tech Plus operators are having their license renewed as Technician and Technicians who pass the 5-wpm Morse test remain in the database as Technician. The Novice Class continues to decline, down 12% in the last year alone. No new Novice, Tech Plus or Advanced Class licenses are being issued. (See next page.)

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AMATEUR RADIO SERVICE CENSUS BY STATE AND LICENSE CLASS

Currently Licensed Individual Stations - As of September 1, 2000 & 2001

State	EXTRA		ADVANCED		GENERAL		TECH PLUS		TECHNICIAN		NOVICE		TOTAL	
	2000	2001	2000	2001	2000	2001	2000	2001	2000	2001	2000	2001	2000	2001
AK	412	445	408	385	606	641	436	362	1,134	1,234	185	157	3,181	3,224
AL	1,523	1,565	1,349	1,294	1,962	2,080	1,557	1,240	3,724	4,005	425	390	10,540	10,574
AR	985	1,016	852	825	1,182	1,256	999	828	2,568	2,820	326	286	6,912	7,031
AZ	2,094	2,203	2,155	2,091	2,910	3,037	2,323	1,942	5,472	5,857	660	605	15,614	15,735
CA	10,912	11,224	12,058	11,529	16,245	16,910	16,383	13,360	39,111	41,582	8,674	6,964	103,383	101,569
CO	1,785	1,839	1,697	1,635	2,272	2,422	1,912	1,566	3,865	4,214	651	557	12,182	12,233
CT	1,316	1,334	1,170	1,122	1,863	1,889	1,336	1,111	1,891	2,097	802	696	8,378	8,249
DC	65	71	78	75	104	103	48	43	83	91	33	29	411	412
DE	228	* 238	192	180	296	328	239	196	343	372	88	78	1,384	1,392
FL	5,492	5,653	6,455	6,257	9,381	9,761	6,136	5,081	9,299	10,122	3,310	2,897	40,073	39,771
GA	2,070	2,140	2,130	2,036	2,812	2,969	2,345	1,936	4,463	4,873	745	656	14,565	14,610
HI	478	494	397	380	547	577	516	449	1,053	1,183	269	196	3,260	3,279
IA	973	987	1,096	1,070	1,447	1,499	885	728	1,659	1,776	475	407	6,535	6,467
ID	549	567	478	449	790	838	645	546	1,730	1,861	184	148	4,376	4,409
IL	3,306	3,372	3,130	2,991	4,719	4,958	3,584	2,950	6,391	6,940	1,713	1,529	22,843	22,740
IN	1,962	2,018	1,883	1,827	3,030	3,171	2,493	2,081	4,541	5,017	977	886	14,886	15,000
KS	944	969	901	850	1,556	1,618	1,132	929	2,251	2,441	508	469	7,292	7,276
KY	1,175	1,225	1,006	962	1,579	1,676	1,400	1,157	3,086	3,314	581	526	8,827	8,860
LA	1,006	1,018	1,033	1,014	1,334	1,384	1,045	855	1,996	2,114	411	345	6,825	6,730
MA	2,390	2,450	2,046	1,985	3,059	3,178	2,414	2,022	3,387	3,730	1,192	1,017	14,488	14,382
MD	1,895	1,907	1,700	1,633	2,238	2,336	1,774	1,485	2,836	3,066	771	681	11,214	11,108
ME	662	672	568	538	1,009	1,047	684	563	1,219	1,306	297	258	4,429	4,384
MI	3,013	3,104	2,763	2,658	4,371	4,565	3,333	2,724	6,383	7,001	1,238	1,139	21,101	21,191
MN	1,629	1,657	1,531	1,479	2,325	2,412	1,580	1,311	3,016	3,314	613	561	10,694	10,734
MO	1,828	1,907	1,760	1,676	2,654	2,762	1,853	1,522	3,914	4,234	748	673	12,747	12,774
MS	682	682	680	641	899	954	655	525	1,586	1,660	225	211	4,707	4,673
MT	429	436	384	362	622	642	414	338	1,073	1,126	177	161	3,099	3,065
NC	2,622	2,730	2,479	2,375	3,429	3,659	2,873	2,367	5,835	6,347	1,310	1,153	18,548	18,631
ND	221	219	174	168	363	368	244	219	480	505	88	77	1,570	1,556
NE	554	549	584	560	964	1,001	604	492	979	1,102	231	209	3,916	3,913
NH	857	871	621	586	966	1,054	825	674	1,370	1,506	310	275	4,949	4,966
NJ	2,514	2,558	2,381	2,296	3,293	3,410	2,705	2,288	3,526	3,822	1,402	1,257	15,821	15,631
NM	773	819	749	712	939	998	694	563	2,007	2,190	183	154	5,345	5,436
NV	623	660	613	595	999	1,063	654	559	1,567	1,713	202	185	4,658	4,775
NY	4,452	4,557	4,346	4,148	6,576	6,774	5,339	4,410	8,841	9,391	3,201	2,840	32,755	32,120
OH	4,175	4,265	3,752	3,587	5,907	6,224	5,469	4,533	8,992	9,810	2,057	1,844	30,352	30,263
OK	1,230	1,275	1,148	1,111	1,524	1,600	1,370	1,111	3,400	3,703	471	403	9,143	9,203
OR	1,673	1,767	1,737	1,663	2,844	2,984	2,061	1,680	3,973	4,406	765	692	13,053	13,192
PA	3,831	3,930	3,491	3,368	5,278	5,454	3,999	3,333	6,048	6,672	1,718	1,570	24,327	24,327
PR	346	369	502	485	825	836	1,781	1,565	1,076	1,241	2,083	1,746	6,593	6,242
RI	380	391	279	266	513	545	482	395	492	548	218	186	2,364	2,331
SC	1,016	1,066	905	878	1,515	1,571	1,038	854	1,995	2,214	358	322	6,825	6,905
SD	249	255	262	247	366	376	193	157	415	453	103	99	1,578	1,587
TN	2,025	2,099	1,899	1,835	2,630	2,771	2,348	1,888	4,347	4,812	692	625	13,941	14,030
TX	6,245	6,497	6,124	5,843	7,895	8,289	6,277	5,131	13,226	14,408	1,981	1,790	41,748	41,958
UT	741	783	674	629	937	1,029	1,418	1,122	4,596	4,961	296	256	8,662	8,780
VA	2,699	2,807	2,454	2,361	3,290	3,445	2,722	2,190	4,775	5,222	1,033	928	16,973	16,953
VI	51	50	32	28	70	87	35	32	90	90	21	20	299	307
VT	358	351	248	244	431	447	328	272	768	819	114	101	2,247	2,234
WA	3,081	3,211	3,042	2,911	4,621	4,872	3,959	3,262	8,024	8,737	1,389	1,206	24,116	24,199
WI	1,531	1,571	1,465	1,421	2,258	2,330	1,486	1,216	3,259	3,592	585	544	10,584	10,674
WV	791	793	606	593	1,070	1,092	962	775	2,708	2,915	342	308	6,479	6,476
WY	232	242	203	196	305	314	228	193	547	603	81	74	1,596	1,622
Other	224	256	139	122	210	211	236	202	730	816	77	69	1,616	1,676
Total	93,277	96,134	90,779	87,172	131,830	137,817	108,431	89,333	212,140	229,948	47,585	41,455	684,042	681,859
%	13.6%	14.1%	13.3%	12.8%	19.3%	20.2%	15.9%	13.1%	31.0%	33.7%	7.0%	6.1%	100.0%	100.0%

"Other" Includes U.S. Island Possessions and U.S. military overseas addresses.